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RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 KABUL 004027

SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 12/15/2019  
TAGS PGOV, PREL, AF  
SUBJECT: KARZAI ON ANSF, CABINET, AND 2010 ELECTIONS  
REF: KABUL 3973

Classified By: Ambassador K. Eikenberry reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (S) Summary: President Karzai reiterated to Admiral Mullen and Ambassador Eikenberry on December 14 his commitment to Afghan National Security

Karzai Focused on ANSF

2. (S) In a meeting with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mullen, Ambassador Eikenberry, Defense Minister Wardak, Presidential Chief

3. (S) Defense Minister Wardak said Army recruitment was improving; last month's return of 873 formerly AWOL soldiers to their units was a positive

4. (S) Karzai inquired whether ANSF expansion would include only an increase in training, or also an increase in more sophisticated military equipment

5. (S) Ambassador Eikenberry mentioned how successful the 2003 Ministry of Defense (MOD) reform was to this institution, noting that the 2006

Non-U.S. NATO Troops Can Stay Home

6. (S) Karzai asked if the other NATO countries were committed to sending 7,000 non-U.S. NATO troops, and if so, would those numbers be severe enough  
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with his instructions to limit civilian casualties because of the emphasis he placed on restricting the use of aerial bombardments. However, he

Skepticism on Pakistan

7. (S) Karzai expressed concern over Pakistan, noting that the Taliban may decide to lay low there until 2011. Admiral Mullen replied that if

Cabinet Selections

8. (S) President Karzai told Eikenberry after Admiral Mullen's departure, with FM Spanta and NSC Rassoul in attendance, that he still had no clear

9. (S) Karzai said the current Higher Education Minister Dafur would be replaced by the current Governor of Kabul Zabihollah Mojadedi, or another

10. (S) Karzai invited the group's views on placing Commerce Minister Shahrani in the Ministry of Mines. Spanta's endorsement was lukewarm; Ambassador

11. (S) Karzai said Ismail Khan was still his choice for Minister of Energy, claiming that Secretary Clinton "agreed to a compromise" after Karzai's  
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If incompetent and corrupt ministers were appointed, it would provide a good reason for them to limit funding. The Ambassador urged Karzai to consider

2010 Elections

12. (S) Karzai mentioned that the 2010 District Council elections could be postponed past 2010, but the Parliamentary elections should only be

13. Admiral Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff did not clear this cable.

EIKENBERRY